

# Similes

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

My little brother is as clumsy as a bull in a china shop when he runs through my room!

Mary Ellen acts like a big baby when she doesn't get her way.

The sunset looks like a dazzling watercolor painting.

Similes, similes, similes. They're everywhere! When we compare two things, using the words *like* or *as*, it's called a simile. Picturing something in your mind helps you understand it better. Similes show us the qualities of an object or person by comparing it to something else.

For instance, read the following simile:

K'nesha is as light on her feet as a ballet dancer.



You get a picture in your mind of a dancer's graceful movements.

Whoever K'nesha is, you know she must be graceful. Here's another example:



His grin was as toothy as a great white shark's.

The writer wants you to know his character's smile was toothy, and it's easy to picture when it is compared to a shark's. Try finishing these simile beginnings so your reader gets a vivid picture of what you're trying to describe:

1. Hannah was as mad as \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Waiting for the doctor, I was as nervous as \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Mother hyenas protect their young like \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Manatees, also known as sea cows, are like \_\_\_\_\_.

## List 35: Similes

### OBJECTIVE

To develop the student's ability to understand the meanings of common similes which will expand and enrich his language comprehension.

### APPLICATIONS

- Print the similes on cards. The student draws a card and must use the simile in a logical sentence.

Example: The house is *neat as a pin*.

- Help students think of other appropriate words that could be substituted for the last word.

Example: black as coal  
black as tar  
black as night  
black as a crow  
black as a panther

- Refer to List 31, Adjectives. Students can make up new similes with these words.

Example: defiant as a jaguar

- Find magazine pictures to go with the similes. Paste into a mini-book and label.



*Hairy as an ape.*

#### Animals

sly/cunning as a fox	slow as a snail
wise as an owl	happy as a lark
fat as a pig	busy as a bee
quiet as a mouse	slippery as an eel
strong as an ox	brave as a lion
huge as an elephant	snug as a bug
proud as a peacock	quick as a cat
playful as a kitten	cross as a bear
sick as a dog	blind as a bat
gentle as a lamb	free as a bird
mad as a March hare	hungry as a wolf
hairy as an ape	nervous as a cat
clumsy as an ox	mad as a hornet
poor as a churchmouse	obstinate/stubborn as a mule

#### Color

green as grass	black as coal
white as snow	black as ink
white as a ghost	red as a beet
white as a sheet	blue as the sky

#### Other

warm as toast	good as gold
tough as nails	heavy as a lead weight
cool as a cucumber	smooth as satin/velvet
deep as the ocean	cold as ice
limp as a dishrag	wicked as a witch
pretty as a picture	high as a kite
thin as a rail	stiff as a board
smart as a whip	slow as molasses in January
neat as a pin	flat as a pancake
quick as a wink	sweet as sugar
hard as a rock	regular as clockwork
clear as crystal/a bell	tough as leather
dead as a doornail	pleased as punch
sharp as a tack/razor	light as a feather
dry as a bone	fresh as a daisy
straight as an arrow	fit as a fiddle
old as the hills	
ugly as sin	

as **agile** as a monkey  
as **alike** as two peas in a pod  
as **awkward** as a cow on ice  
as **angy** as a wasp  
as **agile** as a cat  
as **ageless** as the sun

as **big** as a bus  
as **big** as an elephant  
as **bright** as the sun  
as **brilliant** as the stars  
as **bright** as a new penny  
as **brave** as a lion  
as **blind** as a bat  
as **beautiful** as the sunset

as **clear** as a bell  
as **clean** as a hound's tooth  
as **clean** as a whistle  
as **clear** as crystal  
as **clear** as mud  
as **cold** as a dog's nose  
as **cute** as a button  
as **cute** as a cup cake

as **distant** as the horizon  
as **deep** as a well  
as **dry** as dust

as **easy** as a.b.c.  
as **easy** as pie

as **faithful** as the dog  
as **fat** as butter  
as **flat** as a board  
as **free** as the air  
as **fierce** as a lion ( as a tiger )

as **graceful** as a swan  
as **glorious** as the sun  
as **gloomy** as night

as **hairless** as an egg  
as **happy** as a clown  
as **happy** as the day is long  
as **hard** as a stone  
as **heavy** as an elephant  
as **hot** as fire  
as **humble** as a worm  
as **hungry** as a bear  
as **hushed** as midnight

as **invisible** as the air  
as **immense** as the sea  
as **illusive** as a dream

as **joyful** as a fly

as **large** as life  
as **lazy** as a pig  
as **lean** as a skeleton  
as **light** as a butterfly  
as **light** as air as **lively** as a cricket  
as **loud** as thunder

as **lowly** as a worm  
as **mad** as a hornet  
as **mad** as the march hare  
as **meek** as a mouse  
as **mischievous** as a kitten  
as **mischievous** as a monkey  
as **modest** as a dove  
as **monotonous** as the sea  
as **motionless** as a corpse  
as **mute** as the tomb  
as **mysterious** as an echo  
as **mild** as moonlight  
as **merry** as a cricket

as **nutty** as a fruitcake

as **obnoxious** as an alligator

as **plain** as day  
as **poor** as a church mouse  
as **poor** as dirt  
as **proud** as a peacock  
as **pure** as snow

as **quick** as lightning

as **round** as a circle

as **scarce** as hen's teeth  
as **sensitive** as a flower  
as **sharp** as a needle  
as **sick** as a dog  
as **silent** as the grave  
as **silly** as a goose  
as **slippery** as an eel

as **slow** as a snail  
as **slow** as a tortoise  
as **smooth** as silk  
as **snug** as a bug in a rug  
as **soft** as a baby's bottom  
as **solid** as a rock  
as **solid** as the ground we stand on  
as **sound** as a bell  
as **sour** as vinegar  
as **steady** as a rock  
as **sticky** as jam

as **still** as death

as **stubborn** as a mule

as **sturdy** as an oak  
as **sure** as death and taxes  
as **sweet** as honey

as **tall** as a giraffe  
as **tight** as a drum  
as **timid** as a rabbit  
as **thick** as a brick  
as **thin** as a rake  
as **thin** as a toothpick  
as **tough** as nails  
as **tough** as old boots  
as **tricky** as a box of monkeys

as **welcome** as a skunk at a lawn party